

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.J. Res. 44, Further Continuing Appropriations.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1077–S1169*

**Measures Introduced:** Thirty-seven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 430–466, and S. Con. Res. 9. **Pages S1119–20**

#### Measures Passed:

**Authorizing Committee Expenditures:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 81, authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2011, through September 30, 2011, and October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2012, and October 1, 2012, through February 28, 2013. **Pages S1078–83**

**Further Continuing Appropriations:** By 91 yeas to 9 nays (Vote No. 29), Senate passed H.J. Res. 44, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2011. **Pages S1088–89**

#### Measures Considered:

**Patent Reform Act—Agreement:** Senate continued consideration of S. 23, to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1089–S1114**

##### Adopted:

Bennet/Udall (CO) Modified Amendment No. 117, to establish additional USPTO satellite offices. **Pages S1089, S1092–93**

Kirk/Pryor Amendment No. 123, to provide a fast lane for small businesses within the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to receive information and support regarding patent filing issues. **Pages S1089, S1093**

Menendez Modified Amendment No. 124, to provide for prioritized examination for technologies important to American competitiveness. **Pages S1089, S1111–12**

##### Rejected:

By 58 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. 30), Lee Amendment No. 115, to express the sense of the Senate in support of a balanced budget amendment to the

Constitution. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to). **Pages S1089, S1107–11**

##### Pending:

Leahy Amendment No. 114, to improve the bill. **Page S1089**

Bennet Amendment No. 116, to reduce the fee amounts paid by small entities requesting prioritized examination under Three-Track Examination. **Page S1089**

Feinstein Amendment No. 133, to strike the first inventor to file requirement. **Pages S1093–98, S1104–07, S1112–14**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the Tuesday, March 1, 2011 adoption of the Leahy-Grassley Modified Amendment No. 121, that the amendment be further modified. **Page S1109**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 11 a.m., on Thursday, March 3, 2011. **Page S1167**

#### Appointments:

**Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group:** The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d–276g, as amended, appointed the following Senator as Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group conference during the 112th Congress: Senator Klobuchar. **Page S1167**

**Message from the President:** Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the continuation of the national emergency originally declared in executive order 13288 on March 6, 2003, with respect to the actions and policies of certain members of the

Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe's democratic processes or institutions; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM-6)

Page S1118

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

4 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

13 Army nominations in the rank of general.

11 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, Navy, and Public Health Service.

Pages S1165-67, S1167-69

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Walter A. Barrows, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Railroad Retirement Board for a term expiring August 28, 2014.

Nannette Jolivet Brown, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

Wilma Antoinette Lewis, of the District of Columbia, to be Judge for the District Court of the Virgin Islands for a term of ten years.

Nancy Torresen, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine.

S. Amanda Marshall, of Oregon, to be United States Attorney for the District of Oregon for the term of four years.

Thomas Gray Walker, of North Carolina, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina for the term of four years.

Felicia C. Adams, of Mississippi, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Mississippi for the term of four years.

Clayton D. Johnson, of Oklahoma, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Oklahoma for the term of four years.

Alfred Cooper Lomax, of Missouri, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Missouri for the term of four years.

Charles F. Salina, of New York, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of New York for the term of four years.

David V. Brewer, of Oregon, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the State Justice Institute for a term expiring September 17, 2013.

A routine list in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Page S1167

**Messages from the House:**

Page S1118

**Executive Communications:**

Pages S1118-19

**Additional Cosponsors:**

Pages S1120-21

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**

Pages S1121-45

**Additional Statements:**

Pages S1117-18

**Amendments Submitted:**

Pages S1145-64

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:**

Page S1165

**Record Votes:** Two record votes were taken today. (Total—30)

Pages S1089, S1111

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:45 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 3, 2011. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1167.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Homeland Security, after receiving testimony from Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security.

### APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND FOREIGN OPERATIONS

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of State and Foreign Operations, after receiving testimony from Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State.

### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BUDGET

*Committee on the Budget:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of Energy, after receiving testimony from Steven Chu, Secretary of Energy.

### THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN MANUFACTURING

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the future of American manufacturing, focusing on maintaining America's competitive edge, after receiving testimony from Representative Hoyer; and Gary Locke, Secretary of Commerce.